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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 4 Jan 1952

SUBJECT Friction within the
Yugoslav Communist Party

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[REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. At a meeting of the Yugoslav Communist Party recently held at Dedinje in Belgrade, which included Marshal Tito, Edvard Kardelj, Mosa Pijade and Aleksandar Rankovic, a proposal is alleged to have been made by the latter that the Yugoslav Communist Party be dissolved, and in its stead a Democratic Socialist Party instituted. Tito and Kardelj stood in opposition to Rankovic's proposal, but were reported to be agreeable, through gradual changes, to give to the Party a character which would be more akin to the British Labour Party, and consequently more acceptable to the United States and Britain.
2. In view of contemplated changes within the Yugoslav Communist Party, there is allegedly much agitation among Yugoslav Communists, and two distinct factions within the Party have reportedly been created. One faction, headed by Edvard Kardelj and Boris Kidric, maintains that the chief woe within the Party, and consequently within the nation, can be attributed to the departure from the Socialist principles on which the Party was originally based. The other faction, headed by Pijade, is on the other hand essentially anti-Cominformist.
3. The internal conflict within the Party has had repercussions among the population in general and is manifest in the relaxation of discipline, anti-revolutionary and Cominformist activity, and acts of sabotage against political and military organizations, and industrial establishments. Wide-scale suppressive measures undertaken by the Government have allegedly reached even the highest military and civilian authorities, with resulting arrests and expulsions from the Party. It is reported that Vicko Krstulovic, formerly Minister of the Merchant Marine and member of the Presidium of Croatia, and Bozidar Maslaric, formerly Minister-President of the Croatian Council of Communications, have been expelled from the Yugoslav Communist Party.² Pasvic, chief of Yugoslav Trade Unions, and Goranovic, formerly assistant to the Minister of Finance, are reported to have been arrested as pro-Cominform suspects.
4. All Government suppressive activity is reported to be rigorously censored, in order to conceal all factors which may cause alarm among the population or give rise to anti-Tito propaganda.

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1. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ reports on the reorganization within the Commission for Foreign Affairs, with Kardelj's position allegedly weakened through replacement of Kidric and Popovic by Rankovic and Djilas. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ reports on the establishment of relations between the French Socialist Party and the Yugoslav Communist Party, while the Washington Comment of same report refers to various reports which speak of steps taken to bring a closer rapprochement between Yugoslav Communists and Socialists of Western Europe.

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- 25X1A 2. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ reports on the arrest of Krstulovic and Maslaric.

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